— Designated officers of the Security Agencies to deliver the letters to Service Providers.

— In emergent cases of carrying out interception.

— Post confirmation from the Competent Authority is to be provided within seven days of the issue of the orders of interception in emergent cases.

(c) The instruction issued by the Government in February, 2006 do not impinge the power of the competent authority under section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act because under this Section the competent authority can order for any message or class of messages.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) to (g) the instructions issued by the Government addresses the incongruities to ensure privacy of communication while carrying out the instructions of the competent authority under section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act for interception or detention of any message or class of messages. However, a proposal is under consideration to further enhance the penalty for ensuring privacy of communication.

Shortage of optical fibre material in Uttaranchal

†3501. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges in Uttaranchal which can be connected by optical fibre;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that several telephone exchanges in the State are not being able to provide high level services due to lack of optical fibre material; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps being taken by Government to ensure the sufficient availability of material for telephone services in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, out of 453 exchanges of Bharat Sanchar

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Nigam Limited (BSNL) in Uttaranchal circle, 388 are working on Optical Fibre. It is planned to connect 37 exchanges during 2006-07 and 15 during 2007-08 on optical fibre cable media. Balance 13 exchanges are planned to be upgraded to Intermediate Data Rate (IDR) digital satellite media.

(b) and (c) All exchanges are connected on reliable media such as optical fibre, Ultra High Frequency (UHF) and satellite. These media have been provided as per capacity requirement and topography of the area and are capable of providing voice service. Regular upgradation of media is done to meet traffic requirements.

IT hub in Vijayawada and Orissa

3502. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Government propose to develop another IT hub in Vijayawada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan of the Central Government to set up such IT hub in the cash strapped Orissa State to help the State to improve its economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh (AP) has identified 30.60 acres of land near Vijayawada for construction of IT Towers, IT Special Economic Zones etc., on Public-Private Partnership model.

(c) Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) an autonomous society under the Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India set up two centres in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela, in Orissa for providing high speed data communication facilities, statutory support on STP Scheme and incubation facilities for the software exporters in the State.